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News Release

MULTI-AGENCY OPERATION DISMANTLES 3 NARCOTICS ORGANIZATAIONS IN PUERTO RICO

15 ICE agents from Ponce and Mayaguez, Puerto Rico participate in the take down.

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico—Humberto Garcia, United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico, Lydia St. John-Mellado, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Jerome M. Harris, Special Agent in Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), announced today the arrest of 36 members of three drug trafficking organizations operating in the municipalities of Cabo Rojo, Mayaguez, and Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. The arrest warrants were issued pursuant to Federal Grand Jury indictments issued on May 4, 2005, Jun. 30, 2005 and Jul. 20, 2005 charging these individuals with violations of the Federal Controlled Substances Act.

The following individuals were indicted by the Grand Jury in the Cabo Rojo, PR case. The have been charged with violations of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 (a)(1); 846; 853 and 881.

- PABLO GRANIEL-LUGO, aka "Papotin"
- IVAN GRANIELA-LUGO
- EDUARDO RODRIGUEZ-VELEZ, aka "Eduardito"
- LUIS GRANIELA-LUGO, aka "Carlitos", aka "Pito"
- ERIC GRANIELA-LUGO, aka "Pinto"
- DAMIAN MARTINEZ-MONTALVO
- PEDRO CRESPO-CARBONELL
- LIZARDO RIOS-MONTALVO, aka "Lizo"

The indictment alleges the above individuals conspired, possessed with the intent to distribute and distributed more than 50 grams of crack cocaine and marijuana from different locations in and around the area of Callejon de Los Locos, in Cabo Rojo, PR. The indictment alleges that the defendants took turns at a "watch tower" located at Callejon de Los Locos to be able to detect any law enforcement presence and that they would not permit any other person to sell narcotics at any location near Callejon de Los Locos without first seeking permission from them. The indictment identifies Eduardo Rodriguez-Velez at the source of supply for the organization and Pablo Graniela-Lugo aka "Papotin" and Ivan Graniela-Lugo as leaders and organizers of this organization. The indictment identifies the remaining defendants as runners, drug processors, sellers and

Page 1 of 3 www.ice.gov

shift supervisors. The indictment contains drug forfeiture allegations seeking the forfeiture of any and all property and proceeds from the defendants in the amount of \$1,500.000 dollars.

The following individuals were indicted by the Grand Jury in the Mayaguez, PR case for violations of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A); 846, 853 and 881 and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

- AXEL GONZALEZ-MASS
- JOSUE GONZALEZ-MASS, aka "Oche"
- HOMMY GONZALEZ-MASS
- JOSE SANCHEZ-PENA, aka "Tony Pollo"
- RUBEN MARRERO-SOTOMAYOR, aka "Sabino"
- FREDDY RIOS-PEREZ
- ALEXIS FELIU-RODRIGUEZ, aka "Peco"
- ROBERTO RONDON-AGOSTINI, aka "Bacalao", "Bolo"
- CYNTHIA VEGA-CAMACHO
- LYDIA DIAZ-RAMOS
- YARITZA SANCHEZ-SANABRIA, aka "Yari"
- ELVIN ALONSO-MALAVE aka "Pestillo"
- LUIS RIVERA-CINTRON, aka "Bertin"
- HAROLD ORTEGA-CARABALLO, aka "Satan"
- BARUC ORTIZ-RAMOS
- CARLOS MORALES-ALVAREZ, aka "Lele"
- JOSE VALENTIN-FABREGAS, aka "Bobo"
- JONATHAN COLON-ROSADO, aka "Descua"
- MILTON FELIU-RODRIGUEZ, aka "Papito"
- OMAR JUSTINIANO-PEREZ, aka "Morfi"
- JOULYN RODRIGUEZ-ZAPATERO
- JEREMY MORALES-RIVERA

The indictment alleges that the above individuals conspired, possessed with the intent to distribute and distributed more than 5 kilograms of cocaine, and more than 50 grams of crack cocaine, and 1,000 or more kilograms of marijuana at a drug distribution points located at Jardines de Concordia, Monte Isleno, and Mar y Sol Housing Projects in the area of Mayaguez,, PR The indictment identifies Axel Gonzalez-Mass, Josue Gonzalez-Mass, aka "Oche", and Hommy Gonzalez-Mass as leaders and organizers. The indictment identifies Jose Santana-Pena, aka "Tony Polla", Ruben Marrero-Sotomayor, aka "Sabino", Feddy Rios-Perez, Alexis Feliu-Sotomayor, aka "Peco" and Roberto RONDON-Agostini, aka "Bacalao", aka "Bolo" as runners, drug processors, and shift supervisors. The idictment identifies Cynthia Vega-Camacho, Lydia Diaz-Ramos and Yaritza Sanchez-Sanabria, aka "Yari" as concealers (stash house managers). The remaining defendants are identified in the indictment as sellers for the organization. The indictment contains drug forfeiture allegation seeking the forfeiture of all property and proceeds from the defendants in the amount of \$3,000.000 dollars. This investigation was conducted under the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) operation *LOS INTOCABLES*. The OCDETF case was investigated jointly by ICE the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Puerto Rico Police Department (PRPD), and the Puerto Rico Justice Department's Special Investigations Bureau (SIB).

The following defendants were indicted by the Grand Jury in the Aguadilla, PR case for violations of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 (a)(1) and (b)(1)(A); and 846:

- JUAN BORRERO-ACEVEDO, aka "Tito Culon"
- JUAN CARLOS ABREU-CORCHADO
- STEVEN ANDUJAR-ROLDAN
- ANGEL NIEVES-ROLDAN, aka "Pica"
- GIL VELEZ-ORTIZ
- BRYAN RODRIGUEZ-RODRIGUEZ
- RAFAEL RUSCALLEDA CORTES, aka "Rafy"
- MARIA LASALLE-PEREZ, aka "Bony"
- RUBEN RIVERA-BELTRAN
- NICOLAS MEDINA-BELTRAN
- HIRAM VEGA-VALENTIN
- LUIS RODRIGUEZ-VIDAL

The indictment alleges that the above defendants conspired, possessed with the intent to distribute and distributed more than 5 kilograms of cocaine, and 1 kilogram of heroin at different drug distribution points in the La Via sector, located in Aguadilla, PR. The indictment identifies Juan Borrero-Acevedo, aka "Tito Culon", and Juan Carlos Abreu-Corchado as suppliers of the drug points. The indictment identifies Steven Andujar-Roldan, aka "Pica", Gil Velez-Ortiz, Bryan Rodriguez-Rodriguez and Rafael Ruscalleda-Cortes, aka "Rafy" as drug processors of the drug points. The indictment identifies the remaining defendants as distributors/runners of the drug points and/or sellers.

These cases were investigated by law enforcement agents of ICE, DEA and the Puerto Rico High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) office.

The public is reminded that an indictment contains only charges and is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial and the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.